NEW ENGLAND FARMER,

AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

PUBLISHED BY JOSEPH BRECK & CO., NO. 52 NORTH MARKET STREET, (Agricultural Warehouse.)

VOL. XXII.] BOSTON, WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY 29, 1844. [NO. 48.

N. E. FARMER.

CAPE COD SOIL.

A field containing about two acres, was planted with corn by Mr Harvey Howes, in Dennis, about a fortnight since. A storm of wind, a day or two after, blew off the light soil to so great an extent as nearly or quite to cover the fence on the leeward side, and to leave it extremely doubtful how much of the field remained planted; and Mr Howes will have to wait with patience until he ascertains what requires to be replanted It was estimated that not less than 500 loads of soil were removed.

What would the agricultural editors do with such soil as this?—*Yarmouth Register.*

☞Let it be protected from the winds by plantations of evergreen trees. This has been done under similar circumstances in Europe, as appears by the following extract from a communication by Hon. Wm. Foster, of Boston, in vol. xviii. No. 41, of the New England Farmer:

"Betwixt Bordeaux and Bayonne, in France, there is a great extent of sea-coast, from whence are blown immense drifts of sand, which were encroaching fearfully on the fertile soil beyond. The French government had made various attempts to stop its progress without success, until about seventy years ago, when a philosophical engineer proposed to prepare a wide belt of land the whole length, taken from that part yet capable of cultivation, and to sow it broadcast with pine. The plan succeeded, and the sand-drift has been stopped."

Instead of sowing the seed, it would be more advisable to transplant the trees, and with them as much of the soil in which they grew as convenient.

The next measure would be to stiffen the soil by mixing with it clay or peat; but we do not know that either of these substances is procurable on the Cape. If not, it might cost more than it would come to, to transport them from elsewhere; but of this our Cape Cod friends must be the judges. Soil from the salt marshes might be of use for the above purpose. But the mere prevention of the drifting of the sand by breaking the force of the winds, would be a great help, and this we think is practicable by the method above proposed.—Ed.

Asparagus.—A medical correspondent, on whose statement we can most implicitly rely, informs us that the advantages of this plant are not sufficiently estimated by those who suffer from rheumatism and gout. Slight cases of rheumatism are cured in a few days by feeding on this delicious esculent; and more chronic cases are much relieved, especially if the patient carefully avoid all acids, whether in food or beverage. The Jerusalem artichoke has also a similar effect in relieving rheumatism. The heads may be eaten in the usual way, but tea made from the stalks, and drunk three or four times a day, is a certain remedy, though not equally agreeable.—*York (Eng.) Courant.*

Sprinkling asparagus with sea-water, when six inches high, is said to be very beneficial.

MANAGEMENT OF CORN.

To the Editor of the N. E. Farmer:

Sir—As I have seen several different plans for planting corn in hills and drills, &c., in your valuable paper, I will give you my method of planting corn in drills.

I have been in the habit, for a number of years, of planting corn in drills, on deep soil, and as follows: Plow about 9 inches deep, taking care to lay the furrows as level as possible. Before planting, harrow it lengthwise of the furrows a number of times, and until it becomes mellow. It is then furrowed out, North and South, at the distance of 4 1-2 feet apart, about 4 inches deep, with a small horse-plow, going across the piece and back in the same place, throwing the soil each way from the centre of the drill; I then fill the furrows with compost manure made from my hog and barn-yard, with a portion of stable manure: it will take from 16 to 18 cords to the acre: it is covered with the plow, by turning a furrow on each side of the drill. The corn is placed in the two latter furrows, 17 inches apart in opposite intervals, in what would be termed the dead furrow, without manure; the two double rows will be 18 inches apart, and the cultivation between the double rows, 3 feet; the manure to be kept covered. I drop 2 kernels of corn in a place, but never suffer more than one stalk to stand, unless there are missing hills, and in that case I allow two to stand next to the missing.

My reasons for this plan of planting without manure in the hill are, that it prevents the stalks from getting an over growth in June, and the ears will set lower on the stalk, and will take less strength of soil to support them. The stalk of corn has two sets of roots; the first set extend deep into the earth, draw the moisture, &c., and will stand the drought equal to a shrub bush. The second set of roots, called fibre or corn roots, and by some cob roots, extending all over the ground near the surface, which tend to making corn, will have the benefit of the manure that is deposited for the purpose of making corn, and not stalks: in this mode of culture, I have raised over 100 bushels of corn to the acre. I am confident in the ultimate success of this mode of drill planting, it will raise corn enough over and above the ordinary mode, to pay the whole expense of cultivation.

One of my neighbors contended that this plan of planting was not a good one, on account of the smallness of the stalks in June, and with that quantity of manure he could raise more corn on the old plan; he therefore prepared an acre of land on a wager that he could beat. He plowed his land and spread the same quantity on the surface and in the hill; it was planted in hills three feet apart each way: he raised the largest growth of stalks that I ever saw: in fact it was all stalks, for he did not raise the tenth part of corn that was raised on my plan. Both planted the same season. Manuring corn in the hill for the purpose of getting a large growth of stalks in the early part of the season, and having no deposit to carry it out, is in my opinion bad policy: it only tends to make stalks to the injury of the grain; for if the ears set high on the stalk, it will require great strength of soil to carry them through. Corn should be planted early, but it should have but the natural soil, and should not be encouraged beyond that. Keep the manure deposited to make corn.

Yours, &c. G. S.

Warwick, R. I., May 20, 1844.

☞Our correspondent's prescriptions are rather unseasonable for this year's use; but, like certain other valuables, they may be "warranted to keep," and be as good next year as when "bran new." Will he favor us with an account of other practices in his husbandry?—Ed.

For the N. E. Farmer.

IMPROVE THE BORDERS OF FIELDS.

Strips of land on the borders of fields, next to the wall or fence, where the plow could not be brought to work, are very often suffered to lie idle, and produce nothing. Now, if such strips were improved by planting bush beans or peas, or winter squashes, they would yield a product of more profit, I venture to say, taking into account the expense bestowed on them, than the same amount of land planted with the main crop of the field.

"Many a mickle makes a muckle," says the Scotch proverb; and a hill of beans here, and of squashes there, in spots which would not otherwise be occupied with any thing of value, will count up at harvest, and furnish a supply of these excellent vegetables for family use, sufficient, perhaps, for the whole winter.

This may seem to some a small matter; not so do I view it; it is an object worthy the farmer's attention. He certainly renders his reputation of being a good husbandman somewhat questionable, who suffers any portion of his land to lie idle, that could be just as well improved, and with an assurance of profit.

Many such unoccupied strips of land as those alluded to, might be put to a useful purpose, I think, in being planted with the sun-flower—the seeds of which, some maintain, are no less valuable for poultry than grain. If these seeds have such value, most certainly they would well repay for the expense incurred in raising them.

D.

Utility of Geese to the Farmer.—It has been long remarked that cattle of all kinds are never unhealthy where geese are kept in any quantity; and the reason assigned is simply this, that geese consume with complete impunity, certain noxious weeds and grasses, which taint more or less, according to their abundance, the finest paddocks depastured by horses, bullocks, and sheep. Most farmers are aware of this, and in many places where the beeves appear sickly, geese are let into the pastures, and the soil where they tread is converted for the time being into a sort of infirmary.—*New Farmers' Jour.*

For the New England Farmer.

GUANO.

Mr Editor—Mr Teschemacher has lain the public under obligations to him for his interesting communications on the use of that important article, *Guano*.

Dr. S. L. Dana, in his interesting "Muck Manual," informs us that there are three varieties of guano known in trade; that the most recent is the best; that the white is the most recent: the reddish brown the most ancient, and the dark grey intermediate between the two.

Now, Mr Editor, as one kind of guano is supposed to be stronger and more valuable than another, will you have the goodness to ask Mr Teschemacher to be kind enough to tell us through the columns of the N. E. Farmer, which of the varieties of guano he used in his experiments, when, though some of his seeds were killed by the strength of the manure, the seeds which were not killed, made such a luxuriant crop?

Yours, with respect,

A CONSTANT READER.

For the New England Farmer.

PROFITS PER ACRE OF EIGHT CROPS.

Mr Breck—Dear Sir—The following explanation, which has been crowded out of place by a number of other matters, is now at your service. If you think it has been too long neglected to merit a place at this time in your valuable paper, just throw it aside.

In my communication on the right use of manures, which was published in the N. E. Farmer, of 27th March last, my account of the net profits per acre on eight crops, which grew in consequence of one manuring with fish, seems to be thought somewhat ambiguous, and not easily understood. Therefore, permit me to say, by way of explanation, that when I stated that "these eight crops, after deducting all expenses for rent, and for cultivation, gave a net profit at the rate of about $100 per acre," I meant to be understood, and I supposed I should be understood, that the eight crops *collectively* gave a total amount of about $100 net gain per acre. This would be an average of about $12 50 net gain annually per acre, during the 8 years in which the crops were taken. It may perhaps be right to add, that the land in the next adjoining lot and of about the same value with this before it was manured, has been several times appraised for only about $10 per acre. I will also just add, that under the head of *cultivation*, I included the expense of the fish with which the land was manured. So that the *net gain* on those eight crops which grew in those eight years, was more than double the original price of the manure, together with the land on which the crops grew, and the land was left better at the end of the eight years than it was at the beginning. This I think would not have been the case if the land had had the same amount of manure divided into different parts, and applied in different years, even if exactly the same amount of manure had been applied in the eight years. For if the manure had been spread on the surface, a great part of it would have been lost in the atmosphere, and if it had been plowed in at different times, then the expense of so many plowings would have absorbed a great part, if not the whole of what is now net gain.

Yours, respectfully, ASA M. HOLT.

E. Haddam, Ct., May 23d, 1844.

Communicated.

DR. ASA M. HOLT, of East Haddam, respectfully tenders his thanks to Dr. C. T. JACKSON, for the valuable and interesting communication, on the manufacture of artificial Guano, which Dr. Jackson has so generously published in the columns of the N. E. Farmer. But as the humate of potash, and the apocrenate of ammonia, both of which enter the composition of Dr. Jackson's guano, are neither of them found at our stores, Dr. Jackson is requested to have the goodness to give the public a further benefit, by publishing *in detail* in the N. E. Farmer, his method of preparing both of the above named articles.

East Haddam, Conn., May 23d, 1844.

Peach Tree Worm.—M. Flagg, in the Plowboy, says:

"Much has been said and written respecting the worm which is so destructive to our peach trees. Now my object is not so much to point out a preventive as a cure, of which, after eight years' trial, I can speak with some degree of assurance. It consists in the following simple method: In the spring, after the frost is out of the ground, I lay bare the trunk of the tree at the roots, then pour on from two to four gallons of boiling soap-suds, taking care so to remove the earth as to retain the boiling suds around the tree; then immediately replace the earth. I usually perform the same operation again in August; and once a year I scrub the entire trunk of the tree with strong soap-suds; this method I consider much better than digging away the earth, and probing with a penknife, as it takes comparatively but little time, and is much more certain. Many persons might be deterred from trying this method, fearing that it would injure or destroy the tree; but I can safely say I have never known a single instance where the tree sustained the least injury. I have sold peaches for four dollars a bushel the subsequent fall after the operation."

From the London Gardener's Chronicle.

SALT AS MANURE.

AMONGST the many manures strongly recommended to farmers, few are more highly lauded than common salt; which, it is stated, supplies to crops all that they require, being at the same time the cheapest, most effectual, and most universal of all known manures. As to the practical evidence on which such assertions are based, I will say nothing; well authenticated facts are always valuable, and we may form our own conclusions from them; the advocates of salt as a manure are, however, not satisfied with stating simple facts respecting its use, but theorize as to the probable manner in which it may act, and endeavor to prove by those theories, its excellence as a manure. Two chemical reasons are advanced to prove the value of common salt as a fertilizer. It is stated that salt fixes ammonia; and secondly, that when decomposed by ammonia, alkali is set free, which greatly increases the fertility of the soil. In the *Gardener's Chronicle* for 1843, No. 8, I made some observations on the action of salt on carbonate of ammonia, my object being to show, that the assertion that salt was one of the best fixers of ammonia, was not supported by chemical facts; but that, on the contrary, it is highly improbable that salt could be used for that purpose, although true that under particular circumstances salt and carbonate of ammonia partially decompose each other. As the subject is again exciting a good deal of interest, I am induced to make a few further observations on the subject, more especially in respect to the second assertion, that salt, when decomposed by carbonate of ammonia, furnishes alkali to plants.

There can be no doubt that in some situations, on particular soils, and applied to particular crops, salt in moderate quantity is an excellent manure—abundant evidence of this is given in the writings of those who have studied the effects of manures; but at the same time there are many cases in which its application has done no good, and indeed sometimes produced evil effects. In many cases no doubt, these effects were the result of too large an application of salt, whilst in others the nature of the soil was such as to render the salt of no value.

In the following observations, my object is not in any way to discourage the employment of salt, but merely to point out the questionable nature of the scientific reasons in favor of its application, which are made use of by its advocates. When very strong solutions of common salt and carbonate of ammonia are mixed at low temperatures, they slowly and imperfectly decompose each other, and a quantity of bi-carbonate of soda and muriate of ammonia are formed, whilst a portion of ammonia is set free. The bi-carbonate of soda being almost insoluble in the solution of the muriate of ammonia, may be separated and obtained pure, whilst the muriate of ammonia may be obtained by evaporating the solution and separating it from undecomposed common salt, and free ammonia. If, in place of separating the two substances, a quantity of water is added, the bi-carbonate of soda dissolves and the two salts re-decompose each other, common salt and carbonate of ammonia being formed. In the same way, if solutions of carbonate or bi-carbonate of soda be mixed with solution of muriate of ammonia, they mutually decompose each other, and form carbonate of ammonia and common salt.

It is perfectly true that very strong solutions of bi-carbonate of ammonia and common salt decompose each other, and that common carbonate of ammonia decomposes solution of salt, when carbonic acid is passed through it; but it is equally true that this only holds good when the solutions are concentrated; if dilute, no such change takes place. When salt is employed as manure it is exposed to the action of a very dilute solution of carbonate of ammonia, for dew and rain-water contain a minute quantity of that salt; under these circumstances it is not to be expected that the salt will be decomposed; and it is not reasonable to compare what takes place in strong solutions in close vessels, with what takes place in the open air with abundance of water. We can only compare the action of rain-water on salt, to the action of very dilute solution of salt and carbonate of ammonia, and such solutions do not decompose each other. Although chemical facts are certainly against the decomposition of salt by carbonate of ammonia, or the fixation of ammonia by common salt, yet this in no way diminishes the value of the salt applied as manure.

It has been assumed that salt cannot act beneficially on vegetation except it be previously decomposed, but there appears very little proof of the truth of this assertion. Even supposing it proved that salt must be decomposed, it is yet by no means impossible that this decomposition is effected after

it has been absorbed by the roots of plants; on the contrary, it is very possible that such a change may take place in their organs, and more likely than that it should be effected in the soil by the carbonate of ammonia, of dew and rain. Salt mixed with soot is often praised as an excellent manure, and mentioned as affording an example of the decomposition of the former by the carbonate of ammonia contained in the latter; there is, however, no need to suppose any decomposition to have taken place to explain the beneficial effects of such a mixture. When plants are manured with amoniacal salts they grow with increased vigor, the roots increase rapidly, a larger supply of inorganic matter is required, and if this is withheld from the plants they do not flourish. When inorganic manures are used, plants acquire increased power of absorbing ammonia, and when manured with salts of ammonia they acquire increased powers of absorbing inorganic matters; hence, the best manures are those in which both classes of substances are applied at the same time, and hence it would be reasonable to expect that salt and soot together would produce a more powerful effect than either alone, except in soils rich in alkaline or ammoniacal salts. The mode in which manures act can only be ascertained by observing the effects which they produce on living plants, but the changes which take place in the organs of plants cannot be compared with those which are the mere effects of ordinary chemical action. The process which can effect the decomposition of carbonic acid and water in the organs of a plant, are equally able to cause the decomposition of common salt, and other inorganic compounds.—*E. Solly.*

GYPSUM, OR PLASTER OF PARIS.

We see that many farmers have procured a goodly lot of plaster of paris, or gypsum, for the use of their farms. Others have procured none at all. Plaster has been used for many years, and the same mystery respecting its operation, still continues in the minds of many, which puzzled those who first began its use, notwithstanding the theory of Leibig and others. Certain facts are known in regard to it which are valuable, and certain theories are in vogue which are not so very valuable. It is a fact that plaster of paris or sulphate of lime is an ingredient in many plants, such as clover, for instance. It is a fact that even a very little, spread upon some soils, works like magic in producing large crops. It is a fact, that on other soils it has no apparent effect whatever. Some have supposed that plaster acted as a stimulus to certain plants and thereby empowered them to lay hold of more of the peculiar nourishment in the soil than they would otherwise—as a glass of bitters will cause a man oftentimes to eat more than he would, had he not taken it. The advocates of this theory say that when the soil contains a certain quantity of it naturally, the application of plaster will produce no apparent effect, because there being already enough for the use of the plants, an addition will be of no benefit, nor will it manifest any apparent effect. On the other hand, if the soil be deficient of it an application by hand will soon show itself.

Leibig says that plaster operates by absorbing nitrogen, or ammonia, which is a compound of nitrogen, from the air, and thus these substances which are food for plants are applied to the plants and cause luxuriant growth. Now if this be the case, why does it not operate the same every where? Why does it produce heavy crops in one field, while in another a little way distant, it has no effect whatever? The atmosphere with its ingredients embrace both fields alike, and if this theory is right, it should act alike in both. The best way for the farmer is, to first try it, and if it benefits his crops, use it more freely. But how much shall he use per acre? and how shall he apply it? On grass lands it should be sown broad cast when there is a dew or moisture upon the grass, and in a calm time. In regard to the quantity, experiments have been tried, and from one to twenty bushels applied per acre. It was found that all over six bushels was of no use, or at any rate, of no *immediate* use. Many say that two bushels are ample for an acre, and many more use but one bushel per acre. For potatoes, the common mode of use in Kennebec, is to drop about a tea-spoonful in the hill with the potato when planted, and some drop it on the potato after the first hoeing. For corn it is used in the same way, though we have heard of its being spread broad cast, for this reason, viz: that when the corn has formed ears, its roots are spread all about, and by spreading broad cast, all the roots would have a chance to take of it. For grain it is used in the same manner as for grass. —*Maine Farmer.*

NEW YORK FARMERS' CLUB.

[Continuation of proceedings of the last meeting at the American Institute, already reported in part.]

Gen. Johnson.—The subject assigned for discussion to-day is the raising of POULTRY. It is now in order.

Mr. Samuel Fleet.—In endeavoring to obtain very large eggs from our hens, we may perhaps lose in another way. It is probable that we may gain large eggs, but few of them, while of the smaller ones we have *many*. I believe that the large breeds lay as many eggs as the small ones, but my experience on that point is not satisfactory to myself. The great difficulty seems to me to be that our Farmers follow no well established system in raising fowls. They are much more attentive to their Geese, whose feathers are so justly valued by the farmer's wife for her beds. Some farmers have tried pens for their fowls, but they appear to thrive better with more liberty. There is no doubt we can have some better system than is known generally; but books do not give us a satisfactory one.

Gen. Johnson.—I have tried experiments with fowls. I built a stone house for them; the foundation three feet deep in the ground, high fences about them—preventive of thieves breaking in or fowls breaking out; but the fowls did not thrive. I let them ramble at large, and they did much better. There is no better range for them than the barn yard. And fowls do not succeed very long on one spot; change your stock every year, and you will do better. It is a great business in Queens county to breed poultry for market. One method they have is to sink a box in the ground for the hen to lay in; they put a cover over this to keep out rain. The earth keeps the nest warm. They are very successful in their breeding of poultry.

Dr. A. H. Field.—Last winter and spring I took pains with my poultry—I had them in a warm and comfortable place—I provided them with plenty of gravel—ashes to roll in, lime for their egg shells In the spring I gave them *scraps* from a tallow-melting establishment. They were very fond of this and ate but very little corn. They laid abundant of eggs and large ones. I have the Dorking breed—their limbs are small, but their bodies are stout, and they are fine egg-layers. A rooster I have weighs seven pounds. I find that fowls do best when at large; my fowls were injured by confinement. Mr. Bement, near Albany, has a fine poultry establishment. He keeps his breeds separate from each other—his buildings are complete. He has a large variety of breeds. When the nests are almost if not quite shut up from view the hens are pleased; they love retirement in laying and hatching. Branches of hemlock were wailed up so as to hide the nests almost entirely; and the roosts must be so fixed that the fowls cannot *soil each other*. They love to have plenty of light in their places, especially in stormy weather. I have tried the fumes of burning charcoal (carbonic acid and gas) for destroying rats and all kinds of vermin in a hen-house. When it has been used care must be taken that the gas be all expelled before fowls or persons enter it. It is so heavy that it rests on the ground. I have known a man lose his life for want of knowledge of this. Fowls must be well fed, kept perfectly clean, and the breed must be frequently changed. When this business is properly pursued it is not only a pleasant but a profitable one.

Mr. Fleet.—Sassafras poles are recommended for fowls to roost upon—they prevent vermin.

Gen. Johnson.—Clinton remarked in his memoirs that bedsteads made of Sassafras wood were believed to be exempt from a celebrated bug.

Mr. Wakeman called for the reading of R. L. Allen's remarks on the raising of poultry. Not far from New Milford, within a few rods of the Housatonic Railroad, my attention, two or three years since, was drawn to a large poultry yard, with one or two acres of ground enclosed, having spacious and convenient sheds with proper places for laying. I found there about twelve hundred fowls, in good condition. They had *carcasses* of horses, &c. in the enclosure, to which the fowls resorted, and they were well supplied with *oats*. The establishment was said to be very profitable. I see no reason why thousands may not be raised near our city, where eggs are so valuable. Let the Secretary write for full information of their methods.

Mr. A. P. Cummings—I have taken pains with breeding poultry. The remarks made as to the bad effects of confinement are in my opinion just. I have failed in attempting to fatten fowls when they were confined in small places. I keep mine in a *warm cellar* in winter. The ammonia of their dung injures their eyes. I remove the dung, and scatter on the spot *plaster of Paris* freely. Thanks to Mr. Ross for that idea. My Guinea fowls had become almost wholly blind. I gave my fowls a variety of food, *animal* as well as grain, &c. I found that the cellar would not do for them. They require all the light. After being once confined, they do not care for space; mine keep on and near the smallest space. Their eggs are better when they are more at large. Muscovy ducks are satisfied in confinement more than other birds. As to ducks, I admire their activity in picking up vermin in my garden, they do great service in that way; they are ten times more serviceable at it than chickens—*New York Tribune.*

THE SEASON FOR TRIMMING TREES.

As soon as planting is over, we should look to our apple trees and cut off the surplus branches. We cannot recommend cutting large branches in any case; we usually do more hurt than good when we take off a limb that is more than two inches in diameter, for the wound will not heal soon enough to prevent decay at the heart. A tree will sometimes look more thriftily for a time, in consequence of lopping large branches, but the improvement will not be lasting. If trees are attended to annually, there will be no need of cutting large limbs. If they have been long neglected, we should content ourselves with trimming out the small limbs and suffer the tree to continue in the shape that it has already formed.

We may not be able to give any satisfactory reason for preferring May to March for trimming apple trees. Most farmers, however, agree that the sooner the wound is healed the better, and that it is not of service to draw forth much sap at the wound. Now it is certain that a wound never begins to heal till the tree has put forth its leaf. It has no means of making new wood before it has leaves, for the sap that forms the new wood passes through the leaf. From the time of trimming, then, to the forming of the leaf, your wound is exposed to the weather and the process of healing has not commenced.

We find that when a limb is cut in July, there will be about as much new wood made to cover the wound during the season, as when the limb is cut earlier. There is a critical time, however, in July, between the first and second growth of the season, when the sap will run from a wound, and will discolor the bark for a foot or more below it; we notice this in trimming nursery trees, and we think trimming in July is not judicious.

As to the comparative waste of sap in March and May, we call the attention of our readers to the practice of tapping the maple for the purpose of gathering sap. All know that no sap can be gathered in May, and not much in April, in our latitude. Sap runs most freely in March. For this reason we never trim grape-vines in March. But after the leaf is formed the vines will not bleed.

You want a fine saw to trim with, to make as smooth a wound as may be, and if a knife is used after the saw, the wound will heal the sooner. Yet we often see trees trimmed with an axe! We also see the bark torn off of the limbs by the heavy boots of the trimmer. All will own this is barbarous. If you stand on the tree while trimming, you should wear slippers or thin shoes.

When no limbs larger than one inch in diameter are cut, the wound may be expected to heal over in a couple of years; in a thrifty tree it will heal in one year. When only small limbs are cut, there will be no need of covering the wound with clay or with any kind of plaster. We cannot find that limbs which have been grafted and then covered over with any kind of compost heal faster than limbs uncovered. A limb should always be cut in such a manner as to let no rainwater stand in the little cup that will be formed by the healing of the wound.—*Ploughman.*

Sheep Husbandry.—J. S. Skinner, Esq., formerly editor of the American Farmer, and one of the most instructive writers on agriculture in this country, is preparing a treatise on sheep husbandry in the United. States.—*Louisville Jour.*

For the N. E. Farmer.

"SUDDEN APPEARANCE OF CLOVER."

Mr. Breck:—In the N. E. Farmer of the 24th of April, under the editorial department, you have an article upon the "sudden appearance of clover," in which you say, "it is an occurrence which has been often noticed, and excited much wonder." I have witnessed several such phenomena, and think they can be accounted for upon scientific principles; and will attempt a solution of the mystery if there is any mystery about it.

To multiply and replenish the earth was one of the first commands of Infinite Wisdom, but to fulfil that command, certain conditions are necessary, in both the animal and vegetable world. Certain, but different kinds of food are necessary to the most healthy growth, maturity, and continuation of the different species of animals, and so in the vegetable creation. The different kinds of plants, when left to themselves, always flourish best in those particular soils best adapted to their perfect growth, and the full developement of all their varied parts; and the labors and discoveries of agricultural chemists, in their laboratories, by their minute and accurate analyses, tell us why certain soils are thus favorable to the growth of certain plants: it is because those soils contain all those elements, or combinations of those elements; those organic and inorganic matters, required for the growth of this, or that particular plant, or species of plants.

In a letter from Dr. Dana to Mr. Colman, as published in Mr. C.'s 2d report, the Dr. says: "I omitted an answer to one of your questions, in my letter of last week; I know of no particular affinity between plaster, or ashes, and *white* clover; the same crop follows a free use of bone-manure. This effect is due in all cases to a peculiar developement of geine. A peculiar state of geine is necessary for each variety of crop." I suppose the Dr. means by "geine," such a combination of the elements, or food, as is best adapted to each variety of plants, for he says "we know that 'fungi' always germinate best in decaying wood. Always we find crops of 'fungi'—(toad stools) about the decaying stumps of trees." Professor Johnston says "each variety of plant, when burned, leaves a weight of ash more or less peculiar to itself." The growing plant finds in the soil the various kinds of food necessary to its growth, and has the power of appropriating it to that purpose, and when the plant is burned and the ashes are analysed, it shews pretty clearly what substances are necessary to the growth of the plant analysed. The clovers upon analysis of their ashes show very appreciable quantities of potash, lime and sulphuric acid, and these substances are derived from the soil. "But the effects of the cultivation of the soil in the growth of plants, is to exhaust the earth of particular elements, which are essential to their growth, and form a substantial part of them, and which are carried off from the soil in the form of seeds, or hay, or straw, or vegetables. These are alkaline substances, such as potash, soda, and the phosphate, sulphate and carbonate of lime. These are found in very minute quantities—in some plants more than in others, but are to almost all, in a certain measure, absolutely essential. Now these may be artificially supplied, either in a crude form or in combination with other substances; or they will be gradually supplied by the disintegration, or waste of the rocks under the common influences of the elements, where the soil is suffered to lie at rest or fallow." Clover generally dies out of mowing fields after two or three cuttings, probably from a deficiency of some of the essential salts or elements in the soil necessary for its growth, for in some particular spots I know that it will continue for many years. I have a field that was stocked down with clover, herdsgrass and red top in 1839, and the clover has always predominated, and now appears as flourishing as at any former period. It has been mowed four times, and the coming season it will not sell for stable hay, in consequence of the great proportion of clover, and I believe they are the same roots that first made their appearance. I know of another patch that has yielded a fair crop of clover for at least ten years, this spot is saturated with sulphuret of iron, &c.

But clover will never suddenly make its appearance unless the seed was naturally or artificially in the soil—and under certain circumstances it will lie dormant an indefinite length of time, and as far as my observation extends, it never makes its appearance only after dry seasons, followed by very wet and warm autumns.

The summers of 1840 and '41 were remarkable for the droughts of both seasons, consequently the evaporation of water from the soil during those dry summers was unusually great, and the amount of the soluble matter, or salts of the subsoil, such as potash, lime, sulphates and phosphates were in the ratio of the ascending water.

For when warm weather comes, and the surface soil dries rapidly, then, by capillary action, the water rises from beneath, bringing with it the soluble substances that exist in the subsoil through which it ascends, and in such dry seasons this ascent of water goes on without intermission. And as each new particle of water that ascends, brings with it a particle, however small, of saline matter, (for such waters are never pure) which it leaves behind (in the dry soil,) when it rises into the air in the form of vapor. Successive portions of this water evaporate from the surface leaving the saline matter behind them. And as this ascent and evaporation goes on as long as the dry weather continues, the saline matters accumulate about the roots of plants so as to put within their reach an ample supply of every soluble substance which is not really defective in the soil.

The dry summer of '40 and '41 had by the drought, prepared a supply of the saline matters so much needed for the growth of clover near the surface—in the latter part of July, '42 it commenced raining and continued warm and wet for many weeks, which caused the dormant clover and honey suckle seed to germinate, and finding in the old bound out mowing fields what Dr. Dana calls the "right developement of geine," these old spear grass fields produced a heavy crop of clover the past season; when there had scarcely been a leaf or blossom seen for years before.

The summers of 1825 and 26 were very dry and warm, and so short was the crop of hay in 1826 that it was sold in this town, as drawn from the field in the hay season, for twenty dollars per ton. The usual or average price for a number of years previous, was about eight dollars. From the failure of the grass seed sown those two years, and the deficiency of the old fields, I heard it frequently remarked, that it would take at least five of the most favorable years to again fetch the

amount of hay up to the crops of previous years, but in August it commenced raining with a very wet and warm fall, (and from some minutes I have, the first frost we had was on the 11th of Oct.) the dormant seeds sprang into life, and the next season afforded a very great crop of hay. There were two farmers here, who cut hay enough to have kept all their stock, but probably with the expectation of realizing a great price for their hay the next spring, they drove a part of their cattle to the north part of the State (some 80 miles) and hired them wintered, but the recollection of the scarcity and high price of hay in the spring of 1817, was too fresh in the minds of most persons, and they cut their stock down to their fodder, and hay was plenty enough in the spring of '27 at $10 per ton. In the latter part of June, or first of July, these farmers that drove their cattle to the north to be wintered—sold their *surplus hay* (several tons) at $7 per ton, and carted two miles to the stage tavern—proving the truth of Burns's assertion—

"That the best laid schemes of mice and men, oft gang aglee."

I have thus attempted in my homely way to account for the "sudden appearance of clover." I have selected the two cases, related, as being the most remarkable and think that the observations of intelligent farmers will substantiate the views I have taken in accounting for the *occurrence*.

I think that the crops of winter rye are much more likely to be good, after seasons of drought, than on those following wet seasons. I have not had much experience in raising rye, but know this much, that the crops of winter rye were vastly better in '42 than in '43, or last season. The two dry seasons had brought the salts within the reach of the crop in '42—the rains of the following autumn dissolved and carried them into the subsoil, beyond the reach of the roots of the grain last year. One or two other facts, in connexion with this subject I will mention. I think red clover is more *natural* or likely to make its appearance after droughts, in soils in which sulphate of iron, &c. exists, or where the rocks contain sulphur and iron in such quantities as to be acted upon and disintegrated by the oxygen of the air and moisture. Red clover contains more lime and sulphor and less potash, and not one fourth the silica that white clover does. Therefore the red clover abounds upon the sulpher soils—while the white is found to flourish best upon the soils when the rocks are pure crystaline granite, and upon the gravelly silicous pine plains. I have seen acres of gravelly plains on some particular years white with the blossoms of the honey suckle. These plains afford a greater amount of the silicate of potash. Facts on experiments have proved that gypsum is the best for red; and sulphate or nitrate of potash for white clover. To quote again from Prof. Johnson; in speaking of the ascent of water from the soil, he says "and as this ascent and evaporation goes on as long as the dry weather continues, the saline matter *accumulates, about the roots of plants*, so as to put within their reach an ample supply of every soluble substance which is not really defective in the soil. I believe in sandy soils, and generally in all light soils, of which the particles are very fine, this capillary action is of great importance, and intimately connected with their power of producing remunerating crops."

The most careless observer cannot but have noticed the beautiful and striking change effected upon vegetation by a shower or gentle rain after several weeks of dry warm weather in the summer, but this change is always greater upon the gravelly or sandy soils, than upon the hard wood lands, which are more generally underlaid by a pan or hard impervious subsoil, which prevents in a great measure the ascent of water by evaporation.

The facts above stated concerning the ascent of water and bringing with it the soluble matters of the subsoil which are dissolved by the first rains that fall, have as much to do in affecting the pleasing change upon vegetation, and to my view quite as satisfactorily account for it, as the theory of Prof. Liebig, who says it is to be all credited to the ammonia that falls in the rain.

In relation to the length of time that seeds will lie dormant, I will relate a fact that has come under my observation.

Some 14 years ago, a farmer in this place was ditching a large swamp, and he drew me a cart load of muck taken from the bottom of a ditch, more than 3 feet below the surface of the swamp; it was mixed with some green horse manure and shovelled over a few weeks; it became quite fine, it was used about my garden, and a part of it mixed with sand for forming a bed for bulbous rooted flowers. I thought I had got a compost free from weeds or their seeds, but I was greatly surprised, when I discovered hundreds of seedling trees of every kind, that ever grew in or about the swamp, springing up—ash, elm, birch, poplar, willow, &c. &c.

I eradicated all but one elm and one poplar; they were cut down about three weeks ago, the elm was 14 inches and the poplar 10 inches in diameter, and they each counted twelve annular rings or grains. This muck was taken from the bottom of a new ditch directly to the cart, and I think the seeds must have been deposited there centuries ago—and if they had not been disturbed, would have preserved their vitality for centuries to come—and then under favorable circumstances would have sprang into life. Yours, &c.

LEVI BARTLETT.

Warner, May 22, 1844.

THINGS TO BE AIMED AT ON A FARM.

1. To exhibit a considerable ambition to be esteemed a good farmer, to contribute all that can be done to the stock of human happiness, and which may be undertaken with profit to himself and benefit to the community.

2. To make a compost of one part stable manure and two parts of earth, or other properly decomposed matter, instead of using long manure from the stable, in its green state.

3. To use manure spread and plowed in, and not to apply it green in the hill—particularly with potatoes; as, by this practice, the crop suffers both in quantity and quality, especially in dry seasons.

4. Where a crop of grain is wanted from land to be laid down to grass, the better plan is to sow grass seed in September, after taking off the grain crop, and plowing in the stubble. Grass-seed should be sown thick; from two to three pecks of timothy and a bushel of redtop should be allowed to the acre.

5. All barns should, if possible, be provided with cellars—part for roots and part for manure; and should be made warm and comfortable. This will operate, too, as a saving of food. Water should also be always at hand.

6. Improvements should be made on a farm on a good scale, and with liberal outlay, if practicable, instead of laying out surplus funds in buying more land.

7. There should be a systematic course of culture of the land; there should be a plentiful planting of fruit and ornamental trees, and all the small fruits should be in abundance.

8. Deep plowing, good in general, should be resorted to as a remedy for the washing of the land on hill-sides: it absorbs the water that falls upon the surface.

9. To plant unproductive and waste lands with trees—such as locusts, for posts, &c.

10. Not to be alarmed at scientific, or what are more commonly denoted "book farmers" and "gentlemen farmers;" their experiments are often exceedingly valuable to the "stand still" farmers, who are often induced by them to move on, and to be improving in their practice.

11. To keep all tools in good order, and in their proper place when done with.

12. To take one good agricultural and horticultural paper, so as to keep up, to the best of their means, with their neighbors and the world at large. —*Western Far. & Gard.*

Hedges.—We have seen it frequently stated by the correspondents and editors of the New England agricultural papers, that the buckthorn is proved there to be the best plant for hedges. The seed or plants can be procured in Boston. It also grows from cuttings. A correspondent in a late Massachusetts Ploughman, says:

"After some experience in growing hedges, and from frequent and continued observations, I should select the buckthorn. My reasons for giving it the preference are the facts that it is easy of culture, of very rapid vegetation, having beautiful foliage, is compact and unyielding in its natural growth, and is more hardy than any other variety. It also possesses certain medicinal qualities, which render it impalatable and nauseous to cattle, and deters them from browsing upon it. The usual age at which the plants are set is two years, and as the price now asked for them by the nurserymen is rather high, it would perhaps be the most economical plan for a farmer, who may wish to set a considerable length of hedge, and who has land and manure to spare, to procure seed and raise the plants for himself."—*Louisville Jour.*

Bedsteads.—Those who wish for neat bedsteads for the ensuing year, should wash them well with boiling water, and then put quicksilver beaten with the white of eggs, in every crack and corner. One white is enough for a bedstead, with as much quicksilver as it will receive. It is the only thing that will keep bugs away when the bedstead cannot be often attended to. It is a certain poison to bugs. —*Ibid.*

Salting Hay.—Salt cannot, as some persons fancy, make badly cured hay *good*, and well cured hay does not need it. Salt is good in a trough or manger, where cattle can help themselves. Hay should invariably be put up into cocks at 4 o'clock, at which time the dew begins to collect. When thus put up, it cures rapidly in the cock, requires less hauling afterwards, and loses less in weight than if put up when cold and wet with dew.—*Ib.*

Farmers cannot afford to keep poor cows, or to keep cows poor.—*Ploughman.*

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

Edited by Joseph Breck.

Boston, Wednesday, May 29, 1844.

TILLAGE OF THE CORN CROP.

"Man is a creature of habit." Once firmly wedded to a custom, good or bad, and ten chances to one that he adheres to it through life. This remark, true of all, is peculiarly so in respect to the farmers' customs in the culture of the earth and its productions. The practices which they have long followed, they are not disposed to exchange for others, however high may be their pretensions to superiority—and in no case is this propensity more strikingly exemplified, than in the methods pursued in the culture of the corn crop.

While all the writers for the agricultural press, without an exception, to our knowledge, discountenance and decry the practices of hilling and topping corn, and most of them the custom of manuring in the hill—and notwithstanding all that has been said and written against these practices—still, nineteen-twentieths of our farmers, probably, adopt and follow these methods, in the belief, no doubt, that they are the best, or from a deep-rooted disinclination to adopt new modes instead of the old and tried ones which were satisfactory to their fathers, and with which, therefore, *they* are content.

But it is not our intention at this time, to attempt an exposition of the impolicy of either of the above named practices in the management of the corn crop. If what has already been said on that subject by others, has failed to produce conviction, *we* may well despair of adding any thing further that could produce it, since far abler and more experienced pens have labored, time and again, for the same end.

What we intend to speak of at the present time in connection with the tillage of the corn crop, is the *stirring of the soil* during the growth of the crop—an object whose utility has not as yet been duly appreciated by our farmers, and whose importance can hardly be overrated.

In the report of the Supervisor of the Plymouth Co. Agricultural Society, (Hon. Morrill Allen,) recently published in our pages, is this remark, in reference to the tillage of corn: "The plow should never enter the field after the first hoeing." The reasons on which this advice is based, are sound and tenable, so far as they refer to the ill-judged practice of running the plow in *every row*, and thus injuring the roots, and as a consequence, the crop. But let a plow be used, *with the coulter alone, in every other row*, running as deep as practicable; and let this be done in *any stage* of the growth of the corn, when it may be endangered by lack of moisture:—Will not more benefit accrue to the crop from this operation than injury by cutting the roots on one side? One who has tried this course asserts that it will enable corn to stand unharmed any drought which is likely to occur, while land in corn not thus stirred, will be unable to sustain the crop. "Stir the ground eight inches deep, (says the same authority,) and the corn will stand and grow during a three weeks' drought—stir it twelve or fourteen inches deep, with a coulter plow, and the crop will grow every day during a six or seven weeks' drought." This plan we think worthy of trial.

The practice of plowing in *every row* after the roots have begun to spread, is objectionable indeed, and Mr Allen very justly censures it in his report above mentioned; but it would seem that the practice above recommended, while it secures the crop a large share of the advantage of deep-stirring, is not obnoxious to the objection brought against the other, of severing or lacerating the roots on *both sides* of the row.

In an article on the tillage of crops in vol. xx. No. 48 of this paper, by its former editor, Mr Putnam, are the following suggestions, which we deem worthy of repetition. We have adopted in our own practice this season, with some crops, the plan recommended by Mr Eliot in the culture of carrots:—

"The ground should be often stirred—but how? Shall we run the plow, or cultivator, or harrow deep, and loosen the earth as far down as we can? or shall we merely scratch the surface? In years past we have maintained that it is important to spare the roots of the growing corn; and have preferred using a light horse-harrow to any other implement; and our course has been successful. But it does not follow from this that we may not do better.

"When reading last year the Essays upon Husbandry, by Rev. Jared Eliot, published in 1747, we were much impressed by a statement there made in regard to the effects of peculiar tillage upon the carrot crop. This was raised without manure. The rows were put wide apart, and soon after the plants came up, the earth was plowed away from them, the plow running *very near* the plants. After a few days, these furrows were turned back towards the plants. A few days subsequently to this, furrows were again turned *from the plants*, but the plow did not run quite so near them as at the first time. Then after a few days the furrows were turned back—and this process of turning off and on, was repeated five or six times. But at each time of turning off, the plow was kept a little farther from the plants than before.

"The consequence of all this was, that he obtained carrots 8, 9, and 10 inches in circumference, where in the common way of cultivation, he could not have had them larger 'than a common dipped tallow candle.' And though his rows were six feet apart or more, he obtained 230 bushels per acre.

"The minute fibrous roots of the carrot extend laterally farther than we are apt to observe. And it is only a fair supposition that the better the state of the ground, or the more recently the ground has been stirred before the roots extend into it, the better the crop will grow. The course pursued by Mr Eliot was admirably fitted to furnish to the roots a fresh supply of soil from week to week, and this soil in a light and pulverized state.

"The question which his practice and his success in this case have suggested, is this: Whether we might not benefit our corn, our potatoes, and all other crops, by commencing early with plowing the earth away from one side of the row, letting the plow run *very near* the plants—say within two or three inches; then we might turn this earth back immediately, or let it remain two or three days, and then turn it back. After this was done, we might plow away from the other side; at the proper time turn this back. When it became necessary to plow off again, keep the plow 4 or 5 inches from the plant. And thus repeat the process as long as was necessary—taking care all the time to keep the plow far enough from the plants not to harm many of the roots.

"At the last time of going over the ground, it may be well to use the light harrow and level the whole surface.

"A fact that has some bearing upon this point, may be brought from the practice of some of the most successful Scotch cultivators of the potato, who after the plants come up, take off the mould-board from the plow, and then running the coulter as near to the plants as they can, let the share pass directly under the seed and plants. The effect is to stir the ground so that the first roots will enter just as they begin to want food."

MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

EXHIBITION OF FLOWERS.

Saturday, May 25, 1844.

The Society's rooms were highly decorated this day with Flora's riches. The display of flowers was very brilliant.

From the President of the Society, M. P. Wilder, a rare collection of Pæonies arboreas, including the following varieties: Banksii, papaveracea, Grand Duc de Bade, Heldii plenissima, stellata atropurpurea, purpurea plena, and papaveracea plena. Fuschias, var. Hybrida coccinnea, and Monipennyii.

From Messrs. Hovey & Co., beautiful Roses, var. Triumph of Luxemberg, Augustin Hersant, Mrs. Bosanquet, Madam Nerard, Marshall Villers, Caroline, Hymenee, Roi des Cramoises, Clara Sylvain, &c. Also, 2 fine Bouquets.

From Samuel Walker, Bouquets.

From Wm. Meller, fine Geraniums, Pansies, a fine seedling Polyanthus, and Bouquets.

From Mrs. Sumner, fine Bouquets.

From Messrs. Winship, a fine display of Hawthorn, four varieties; two large bunches of beautiful Azaleas, of various sorts; also, some very beautiful Spireas and other cut flowers. S. trilobata was very much admired.

From Wm. Kenrick, Pæonies arborens, var. Moutan, Banksii, &c.; Papaveracea; also, Herbaceous Pæonies, Double flowering white Hawthorn, Scarlet do.; Tartarean Honeysuckle, Corchorus Japonicus, Chinese Berberry, Purple Beech, Iris, Bouquets, &c.

From Jno. A. Kenrick, Azaleas, several varieties; Pæony arboreas, 2 var; Pæony herbaceous, 6 var.; Glycine sinensis, Scotch Laburnum, Tartarean Honeysuckle, Aristolochia Sipho, Flesh-colored Horsechesnut, Hawthorn, 3 var; Magnolias, 2 var., &c.

From Joseph Breck & Co., Tree Pæonies, 6 var. of Herbaceous Pæonies, Lychnes, flos cuculi, Hesperis, Tulips, Phlox divaricata, and a variety of cut flowers. Also specimens of a much admired variegated Mountain Ash, very beautiful.

For the Committee,

J. BRECK, *Chm'n.*

The committee on Hawthorns, Hardy Azaleas, Magnolias, and Shrubby Pæonies, have attended to the duty assigned them, and respectfully report that they have awarded the following premiums, viz.

For the best display of Hawthorns, a premium of $2 to Jno. A. Kenrick, of Newton.

For the best display of Hardy Azaleas, a premium of $3, to Jno. A. Kenrick, of Newton.

The committee believing that the specimens exhibited of Pæonies and Magnolias, were not of sufficient merit to receive the Society's premiums, have declined to make any award.

S. Walker,
J. Breck,
Parker Barnes,
Committee.

EXHIBITION OF FRUITS.

Fine specimens of Black Hamburg Grapes, Miller's Burgundy and Sweetwater, from Woodland, Brookline, by James Nugent, gardener to Mrs Howard. The specimens of the Hamburg were well colored and highly flavored.

Mr J. F. Allen, of Salem, presented some very beautiful specimens of the *Peach*, viz: Royal George and Grosse Mignonne; the specimens of the former appeared conscious of their merit, and fairly blushed at their own beauty. Mr Allen also presented some fine specimens of the "Black Fig of St. Michael," and Franconia Raspberry—ripe and in fine order.

For the Committee,

S. WALKER, *Chm'n.*

EXHIBITION OF VEGETABLES.

Fine Asparagus was exhibited by Mr John Cummings, jr., of Woburn.

J. A. KENRICK.

Simple Cure for Worms.—One spoonful of syrup of peach-blossoms, taken in a glass of the water distilled from the leaves, or in which the leaves and worm-seed have been decocted, is a most safe and certain medicine for the worms in children.—*U. S. Receipt Book.*

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass in a shaded Northerly exposure, to the week ending May 26.

May, 1844.		7 A.M.	12, M.	5, P.M.	Wind.
Tuesday,	21	53	67	56	S. E.
Wednesday,	22	58	60	51	N.
Thursday,	23	40	54	48	E.
Friday,	24	44	70	60	E.
Saturday,	25	52	85	50	E.
Sunday,	26	44	58	54	E.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, May 27, 1844.

Reported for the N. E. Farmer.

At Market 320 Beef Cattle, 25 pairs Working Oxen, 200 Sheep, and 1500 Swine. 50 Beef Cattle and 225 Swine unsold.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.*—Nearly all of the best Cattle were sold on the hoof probably at something more than our highest quotations last week. We quote extra $5,62. First quality $5,12 a 5,37. Second quality $4 75 a 5,00. Third quality $4,00 a 4,50.

Working Oxen.—Sales $65, $80, $85 and $87.

Sheep.—Sale of lots from 2,25 to $3,00.

Swine.—Selected lots of small Shoats to peddle 4 1-2 to 5 for sows, and 5 1-2 a 6 for barrows. Old Hogs from Ohio 4. At retail from 5 to 7.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, $2 00 to 2 12 per bushel. Red Top 68 to 70 cents. Clover—Northern, 9 to 10c.—Southern, 8 a 9 c. Flax Seed. $1 50 per bushel. Lucerne, 33 c. per lb. Canary Seed, $3 00 per bushel.

GRAIN. There has been a steady demand for Corn during the week past, and prices have been pretty uniform.

Corn—Northern, new, bushel 00 to 00—Southern, round yellow, old, 52 a 53—Southern flat yellow, new, 50 a 51—do. do. white 48 a 00—do New Orleans, 00 a 00—Barley 00 a 00 —Rye, Northern, 73 a 75—do. Southern, 70 a 72 —Oats, Southern, 00 a 32—Northern do. 36 to 37—Beans, per bushel 1 00 a 1 62.—Shorts, per double bush. 00 a 00—Bran, 00 a 00.

FLOUR.—Since our last report the market has been dull for all descriptions, and closes heavy at quoted rates.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. $4 94 a 5 00—do. wharf, $4 75 a 4 81—do. free of garlic, $4 87 a 0 00—Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $4 75 a 4 87 —Fredericksburg, low l'd 4 mos. $4 81 a 4 87—Alexandria, wharf mountain, 0 00 a 0 00. —Georgetown, $5 00 a 5 25—Richmond Canal, $4 87 a 5 00 —do. City, $0 00 a 0 00—Petersburgh, South side $5 00 a 5 25 —do. Country $4 87 a 0 00—Genesee, common, cash, $4 81 a 4 87— do fancy brands $5 12 a 5 18 — Ohio, via Canal, $0 00 a 0 00—do do New Orleans, cash $4 50 a 4 87. Rye, $3 50 a 0 00—Indian Meal in bbls. $2 87 a 3 00.

PROVISIONS. The heavy increased supplies of Pork, and the anxiety on the part of holders to realize, has led to some further decline in prices, and several parcels have been forced on the market at exceeding low rates.

Beef—Mess 4 no. new bbl. $6 50 a 7 00—Navy—$5 75 a 6 25.—No. 1, $5 50 a 5 75—do Prime $0 00 a 0 00—Pork—Extra clear 4 mo. bbl. $00 00 a 00 00—do Clear $10 00 a 10 50 do. Mess, $7 50 a 8 00—do Prime $6 25 a 7 00—do Mess from other States,— a — —do Prime do do $0 00 a 0 00 do. Cargo do. 0 00 a 0 00 —Clear do do $00 00 a 00 00—Butter, shipping, 15 a 18—do store, uninspected, 10 a 12—do dairy, 18 cts. a 20—Lard, No. 1, Boston ins. 00 a 0 —do South and Western, 5½ a 6 — Hams, Boston, 7 a 7½ — Southern and Western, 6 a 6½—Cheese, Ship'g and 4 meal, 3 a 4½ —do new milk, 4½ a 5½.

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 7 cts. per pound, 5 per cent. ad val. All whereof the value exceeds 7 cts. per pound, 40 per ct. ad. val. and 3 cts per pound.

Manufacturers continue to purchase to meet their present wants at recent prices. Sales have been made to a fair extent, and the stock in market is sensibly diminished, but will soon be increased by supplies of the new clip. Coarse foreign is in good request.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 45 a 48 c.—American full blood do 43 a 45—Do. 3-4 do 37 a 40—Do. 1-2 do 33 a 35 -1-4 and common do 28 a 32 — Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 a 25— Do. unwashed, 10 a 17 — Bengasi do 6 a 13—Saxony, clean, 00—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10—do. do. picked, 10 a 15—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 37 a 40—No. 1 do. do. do. 32 a 35—No. 2 do do do 25 a 30—No. 3 do do do 18 a 20.

HOPS. Duty 20 per cent.

Nothing doing this week. The stock in hands of growers and dealers is too small to admit of much trade being done, and it is difficult to quote with entire correctness.

1st sort Mass 1843, lb. 6½ a 7 ; 2d do 4½ a 5.

HAY, 14 to 16 per ton—Eastern Screwed $10 to 12.

EGGS, 12.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS, VERBENAS, DOUBLE DAHLIAS, &c.

The subscribers can furnish 25 varieties of the finest *CHRYSANTHEMUMS*, mostly new sorts, at $3 per dozen, or 50 cents per plant for some extra fine new sorts.

VERBENAS. The many varieties of this showy flower add much to the brilliancy of the flower garden, as they continue in bloom from June to November. They can be furnished at a low rate, embracing white, pink, purple, lilac, scarlet, crimson, and many intermediate shades and variations, at $2 per dozen, when the selection is made by us,—or $3 per dozen for some of the choicest new sorts.

DOUBLE DAHLIAS. We can furnish this gorgeous flower to any extent, and of the most splendid varieties from 3 to $12 per dozen. The time of planting is fast approaching, and those who wish to ornament their grounds with this flower should send in their orders soon. The first of June is in season to plant them out. We can forward them safely in pots to any part of the country.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, May 13, 1844.

FARM FOR SALE.

One of the most pleasant situations in the middle of the town of Pepperell—the farm of the late Rev. James Howe, containing 44 acres of first rate land, well divided into mowing, tillage, pasturing and wood land, well watered and fenced, with a two story house and two barns, one 36 by 40 feet, with a cellar under the same, and all other convenient out buildings. There are a variety of fruit trees on the farm *Terms easy.* For further particulars inquire of SETH NASON, on the premises, or to JOSEPH BRECK & CO., 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston. April 20.

POTTAWATTAMIE BEAN.

The subscribers are happy to inform their customers and friends that they have received a new and superb variety of early BUSH BEAN, of excellent flavor, and very prolific. It surpasses in beauty any variety now cultivated among us. The name of "Pottawattamie" has been given to it on account of its having been received from that tribe of Indians in Iowa, by whom it is cultivated. Price 37½ cents per quart. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, April 17, 1844.

SPLENDID FLOWER SEEDS.

The subscribers have received the following choice Flower Seeds which they offer at 6 1-4 cents per package, except those marked otherwise.

Extra fine German Asters, 8 varieties.
Fine double Balsams (sorts.)
Extra fine do 12½ cents.
Cosmos bipinnatus 12 "
Campanula pulcherrima 12½ cents.
——— pyramidalis alba 12½ cents.
——— do azurea 12½ cents.
Chinese Primrose 12½ cents.
Cleome Grandiflora 12½ cents.
Didiscus cerulen 12½ cents.
Erysimum Peroffskiana.
Geraniums, from superb flowers 33⅓ cents.
Lupinus pollyphyllus 12½ cents.
——— var alba 12½ cents
——— rivularis 12½ cents.
——— Crookshankii 12½ cents.
——— splendens 12½ cents.
——— odoratus 12½ cents.
Lophospermum Sinndem 12½ cents.
Mimulus Hudsonia 12½ cents.
——— cardinalis splendens 12½ cents.
Madagascar periwinkle 12½ cents.
Penistemon Millerii 12½ cents.
——— hybridus 12½ "
——— gentianoides 12½ cents.
——— splendens 12½ "
Salpiglossis, fine sorts 12½ "
Schizanthus Hookerii 12½ "
——— obtusifolia.
——— new white.
——— humilus.
——— pinnata.
Portulacci Gilesii, 25 cents.
Phlox Drummondi 12½ "
Verbena, fine scarlet, and from other choice sorts 12½ cts.
——— aubletia.
——— urticifolia—With many other rare sorts.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, April 19, 1844.

FINE BONE MANURE.

The subscribers have on hand, Fifty Barrels of fine pulverised Bone Manure, mixed with the marrow of the bone. It was produced from a manufactory when the bone was sawed in a wet state. It must be a very valuable article.

Also, Fifty Barrels fine Bone Dust, in a dry state, principally saw dust, and the refuse of a manufactory.

March 20, 1844. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.,

NEW ENGLAND

Agricultural Warehouse

AND

SEED STORE.

51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. having received a full and general assortment of FIELD, GRASS, GARDEN and FLOWER SEEDS, worthy of cultivation, confidently recommend them as being pure and of the first qualities, unmixed with other varieties; they have no hesitation in saying that their collection of Seeds is the best, and of the greatest variety ever offered for sale at any establishment in the U. States.

AGRICULTURAL BOOKS of all kinds, constantly on hand.

AGRICULTURAL AND GARDEN IMPLEMENTS of all kinds, among which are the following, viz:—1000 Howard's Patent Cast Iron Ploughs, 200 Common do. do, 200 Cultivators, 100 Greene's Straw Cutters, 50 Willis' do. do. 100 Common do. do, 100 Willis' Patent Corn Shellers, 50 Common do. do, 200 Willis' Seed Sowers, 50 do. Vegetable Cutters, 50 Common do. do., 200 Hand Corn Mills, 200 Grain Cradles, 100 Ox Yokes, 1500 Doz. Scythe Stones, 3000 do. Austin's Rifles, 100 doz. Cast Steel Shovels, 150 do. Common do. 100 do. Spades, 500 do. Grass Scythes, 300 do. Patent Snaiths, 200 do Common do., 500 do. Hay Rakes, 200 do. Garden do., 200 do. Manure Forks, 300 do. Hay do. 800 Pair Trace Chains, 100 do, Truck do. 100 do. Draft do, 500 do. Tie up do, 50 doz. Halter do, 1000 yards Fence do, 25 Grind Stones on Rollers.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.,

N. E. Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston.

WARREN'S GARDEN AND NURSERY,

NONANTUM VALE, BRIGHTON,

FLORAL SALOON AND SEED STORE,

No. 1 *TREMONT TEMPLE,* (*late Tremont Theatre*) BOSTON.

The proprietor of this establishment is now ready to receive and execute orders for Fruit; Ornamental Trees; Grape Vines; Shrubbery; Roses; Strawberry Plants, &c. in any quantity and of the most valuable kinds at short notice, properly packed and secured for transportation to any part of the United States or Provinces.

The catalogue for 1844 which has been prepared with scrupulous care, contain a list of the choicest sorts of Pears; Apples; Plums; Cherries; Peaches; Apricots and Nectarines; Grape Vines; Raspberries; Gooseberries; Strawberries; Currants; Evergreen Trees and Shrubs; Ornamental Trees; Herbaceous Plants; Roses; Green House Plants; Dahlias, &c.

A new feature has been added in the catalogue which renders it particular valuable for purchasers who are desirous of improving their orchards and grounds by planting only the most approved, superior and productive varieties. It is by columns and abbreviations, the meaning of which is explained under every different kind of fruit, so that a large number of the most important characters by which the different varieties are distinguished may be seen at a glance.

While the list of fruits may not be found so extensive as in some other catalogues, it contains every kind of value, and all new and improved varieties are added as soon as their qualities are tested. Nevertheless any variety that may be ordered can always be supplied, on as reasonable terms as are afforded any other nurseries.

The list of *DAHLIAS* comprises upwards of 300 of the choicest varieties of this gorgeous and splendid flower, most of them prize varieties. Dry roots ready for delivery early in the spring, and in pots from the middle of April to the 1st June.

STRAWBERRIES of the most productive and best varieties, for sale in any quantity. None but healthy and strong plants will be suffered to leave the nursery.

GRAFTS and *SCIONS* of most of the kinds named in the Catalogue can be obtained in their season.

GREEN HOUSE PLANTS, of all the rare and splendid kinds, always on hand at the Saloon, where visitors are respectfully invited to call.

GRAPE VINES; ASPARAGUS, and other roots constantly for sale.

Also, a great variety of choice *GARDEN* and *FLOWER SEEDS,* all of this year's growth, and warranted fresh, genuine and true to their names.

Agricultural, Horticultural and Botanical Books.

Gardening Implements; Flower Vases, &c. &c. The whole enumerated in a new descriptive Catalogue, which will be given *gratis* on application. All orders for trees will be delivered at one day's notice. Every tree and plant will be warranted by the subscriber, as to its distinctive character and goodness.

Boquets and cut flowers, can be obtained any day in the week at the saloon. Flowers furnished for decorations, at short notice. JAMES L. L. F. WARREN.

April 3.

MISCELLANEOUS.

How Scholars are Made.—Costly apparatus and splendid cabinets, have no magical power to make scholars. In all circumstances, as a man is, under God, the master of his own fortune, so he is the maker of his own mind. The Creator has so constituted the human intellect, that it can grow only by its own action. Every man must, therefore, in an important sense, educate himself. His books and teachers are but helps; the *work* is his. A man is not educated, until he has the ability to summon, in case of emergency, all his mental power in vigorous exercise to effect his proposed object. It is not the man who has seen most, or who has read most, who can do this; such an one is in danger of being borne down, like a beast of burden, by an overloaded mass of other men's thoughts. Nor is it the man that can boast merely of native vigor and capacity. The greatest of all warriors that went to the siege of Troy, had not the pre-eminence because nature had given him superior strength and he carried the largest bow, but because self-discipline had taught him how to bend it.—*Daniel Webster.*

An English Jury.—An English paper states as a fact, that of a coroner's jury recently held near Exmoor, nine signed their names by marks, being unable to write. The following are some particulars of the examination:

Coroner.—Did you know the defunct?

Witness.—Who's he?

Cor.—Why, the dead man.

Wit.—Yes.

Cor.—Intimately?

Wit.—Werry.

Cor.—How often have you been in company with him?

Wit.—Only once.

Cor.—Do you call that intimately?

Wit.—Yes; for he were werry drunk, and I were werry drunk, and that made us like two brothers.

Cor.—Who recognized the body?

Wit.—Jack Adams.

Cor.—How did he recognize him?

Wit.—By standing him on his head to let the water run out.

Cor.—I mean how did he know him?

Wit.—By his plush jacket.

Cor.—Anything else?

Wit.—No; ony his face were so swelled, his own mother would not have know'd him.

Cor.—Then how did you know him?

Wit.—Cos I warn't his mother. (Applause.)

Cor.—What do you consider the cause of his death?

Wit.—Drowning, of course.

Cor.—Was any attempt made to resuscitate him?

Wit.—Yes.

Cor.—How?

Wit.—We searched his pockets.

Cor.—I mean did you try to bring him to?

Wit.—Yes—to the public house.

Cor.—I mean to recover him?

Wit.—No. We warn't told to.

Cor.—Did you ever suspect the deceased of mental alienation?

Wit.—Yes; the whole village suspected him.

Cor.—Why?

Wit.—That he alienated one of Squire Water's pigs. (Applause.)

Cor.—You misunderstood me. I allude to mental aberration.

Wit.—Some think he was.

Cor.—On what grounds?

Wit.—I believe they belonged to Squire Waters.

Cor.—Pshaw! I mean, was he mad?

Wit.—Sartenly.

Cor.—What, devoid of reason?

Wit.—Why, he had no reason to drown himself i nows of.

The Use of Marrying.—Galignani's Messenger relates the following amusing anecdote:

A jolly young fellow, named Roubille, made his appearance at the bar of the Correctional Tribunal, (Paris,) with such a stereotyped smile on his lips, expressive of self-contentment and good nature, that every one present was astonished when it was found that he was charged with beating his wife. The following colloquy ensued between the President and the prisoner:

"You are accused of beating and kicking your wife."

"Aye, aye—it's a habit I've got."

"You would do well to get rid of it."

"Of my wife? I should like nothing better."

"No, no, not that—you know perfectly well what I mean. Have you any reason to complain of your wife?"

"I do n't know that I have. But you must see, when I am in a rage it must fall upon something, and as my wife is always at home, why she catches it."

"You show a most deplorable want of feeling."

"If it did not fall on her, I should be breaking the furniture; but there 's no such risk, you know, in striking my wife."

Here the President exclaimed—"Hold your tongue man! you only aggravate your offence."

The Tribunal sentenced him to two months imprisonment, on hearing which, his everlasting smile left him and he remarked, "Well I certainly did not expect that. Two months for slapping one's wife! What's the use of marrying!"

Poor, Dear Lady!—The London correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce writes—

"It is said that a proposition will be submitted for augmenting the income of the Queen, on the score of her increasing family, and that her Majesty having become pecuniarily involved, will seek from her faithful parliament a relief from all her difficulties. Her present debts are stated to be £100,000 sterling: the support of herself, husband and court costs John Bull £470,000 a year—or about 2,120,000 dollars! It certainly must be very difficult to keep within such an income." [What a curse is royalty!]

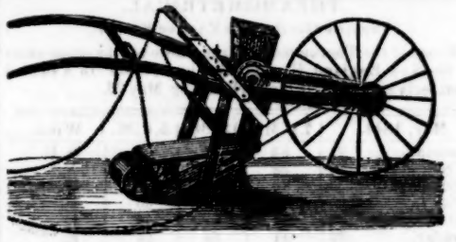
NITRATE OF SODA FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

BENJAMIN BANGS, No. 39 & 40, Lewis' Wharf, has for sale, a quantity of the above named article, which has been much approved of in England, and as far as used in this country has been found highly beneficial on grass land, trees and plants generally.

Boston, March 20, 1844. 3m

GRINDSTONES ON FRICTION ROLLERS.

Grindstones of different sizes, hung on friction rollers and moved with a foot treader, are found to be a great improvement on the old mode of hanging grindstones. Stones hung in this manner are becoming daily more in use, and wherever used, give universal satisfaction. The rollers can be attached to stones hung in the common way. For sale by J. BRECK & Co., No. 51 North Market street.



WILLIS' LATEST IMPROVED SEED SOWER.

In using this machine, the farmer may be certain that his seed is put into the ground, and at the same time in the best possible manner. There has been a great difficulty in machines for sowing garden seeds; they are very apt to clog up, and the farmer might go over an acre of land and not sow a single seed; but not so with this; it is so constructed that it cannot possibly clog. In using this sower, the farmer can save one half of his seed, and do the work at less than one quarter the expense of the common way of sowing, and have it done in a much better manner; it opens the furrow, drops the seed covers it over and rolls them down. It will sow any kind of Garden Seeds; say Ruta Bags, Mangel Wurtzel, Turnips, Carrots, Beets, Parsnips, Onions, &c. For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, Nos. 51 and 52 North Market street, by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over, turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has been very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard orrocky,* BEGIN WITH MR. HOWARD'S."

At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twentyseven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twentynine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside; this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance*, or $2 50 if not paid within sixty days.

N. B.—Postmasters are permitted by law to frank all subscriptions and remittances for newspapers, without expense to subscribers.

TUTTLE AND DENNETT, PRINTERS.

21 School Street.